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Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 19 of 36

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Severile leaks on DOT reports

A US Dudget live items

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 20 of 36

BSG 10/1/04 Steve, Dan, Day Toma phore Ed, Rich Bob, Mike - Springfield has newer B5 et operates a lower presseure per Dan C. A Dan of steve agree to new sortiz criteria Per Dan, remaining 70 miles of NPCS should be dealt of as it BS - bad shapl - small segment > If squeezed hard might find 5-6 miles ADama will put together package to defend position on includi-Dan & Ser agrees only BS services connected to BS main will be replaced \$ OK to Stutisticia to ok to Metallurgist if tight scope not to debate protecting BS

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 21 of 36

But May bor want a leak expert realler than Corrossion Expert Such as Heath Asson Dan has contacts of Heath

Cap. EX - Add to Procedure Post Project Review by Internal BSG Mars they currently do this quarterly

Paul Mushoto is outside consultant Along want Rudan to speak up him as part of this work can spk of him Win the work

-OK to complete after Oct 31

At Dan will chaise downertation of historical caper review meating 3

A Ton says hast Souds like we have go ahead

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RR-AG-20 Firmial Model Attachment 20(b) Page 22 of 36 -characterize colinate of zero lake
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Since over 90% will be plastic

8' size is entott a graying
between Steel 1 plastic -Want 23/ to downert method ve A Rudden to sook is/ Down to define estimate of Progra by town then explain methodology \* Eliminate CAI & Rosidutiul allocation At Dan does have Mot! OH on capital

Bay State Gas Company

D.T.E. 05-27

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Cupy 10/20/04 Roal La Shoto, Doug Cassey Paul La Shoto was Co BSG Hend Of Engr - Northern Utilitien Bave Steel Program may have example ? Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 24 of 36

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Relistered of CIAC

dione Bay State Gas Company

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Tan Objerningham Cost per Mill Man \$60/ft Cost per Service +1400 RIX Services 638 @ Risk and coile rate AND AND

> Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 27 of 36

BSQ Conference Call
Stave B, Doug C. Ton B, RNR, Ed, George F. DOT Phovides by yr. Lawson System

A Additions - Additions

A Retirents are done wy
data feed - AM - Retirement of are entire manually DOT

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 29 of 36

sough low 11/24/64 Signal to State level Analysis of DOT data? next with Tuly appears Asset Mont link

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 30 of 36

2003\_DOT. Annual Distribution

Report Data -

RJR Data Reg.

level leak data

Information from Asset Myr enailed 10-7-04

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 31 of 36

12/1/04 B56 Tom, Doug Rich Ed, Mike Call W: Status of Data Descriptions Tuesday My had 15 20 peoply inducting Steve, Dun & people from Ohio Differences between DOTADTE one only Godage differences is main our out of services was not veconciled. # an ex - Dan Coll assigned, a Han Marie Walker to develop a workplan Maybe something to suple as All art accurate - Asome this 10 gar analyons of report to do c = Warely 15 is role impact
= Schedules due April 15 A'Girl Tomo doop dead day. Ei latest

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 32 of 36

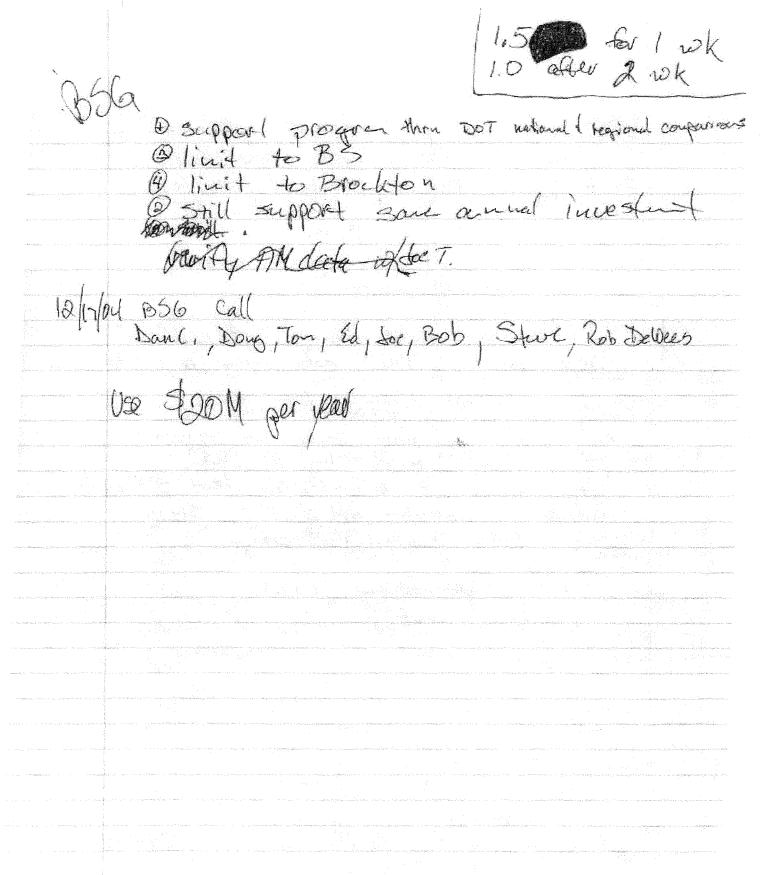
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Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 33 of 36

BS6 Status Report Conf Co4 Tom, Dong, El, Mile 12/10/04 - Struggled to define a defensible analysis - Have vecable data on - Still have questically data on The Must make adjustments to work More all' the UPG date latest - Our report can address reconnectations for BSEUPCE For both mains of services - What we are deliver is one analytical analysis of BS Mains A data BS reaks poor in co-purison to US. 8/kg We then can address to Services & UPCS through experience opinions of industry experience at the mains of some and - zervices subject to some commu -UPCS should be worse expert opini-- Financial Analysis will address Know quantities of B5 mains then add additional states scenario to cover added # of services & UPCS.

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(b) Page 34 of 36

Consevere Call Ton Birminghan, Marie Walk, Rob Dewels, Ed Andrown, Bob O., Mike M., Day Casey Maril Suys currently just looking Dest now DOT data may be the bost - Maril has found vetirements that are not part of a main replacement to not get to the asset higher system she thinks it accounts for about 55 mile difference between AM & DOT Sing DOT does capture this bodge Frider 12313



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Y'l County we 5 not complet

# Michael D. Mount Meeting and Telephone Conference Notes

8/5/04 Bay State Bay State Gas Corpany D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(c) Page 1 of 24

Steve Bryant
Dan Cote
Doug Casey in Steve's Group
Rob DeWees- outside attorney
Tom Birmingham
Keith Dalton- Manager Engineering & Constructions
Trish French- Nisource attorney works for Dan Cote

- Per Steve this is most important issue in rate case
- No new ground in rate case except this issue
- Starting early for 2005 rate case
- A lot of changes since last case w/ 2 mergers
- Brockton facilities the primary issue of rate replacement
- Operational reality. Leaks reliability accelerating
- Will be asking DTE for a departure
- Boston Gas (Keyspan) already has a precedent for one issue rate ratemaking

#### Agenda

#### Item II

- Central theme is current depreciation can't find expansion assuming spend \$20M/yr over depreciation.

RR = 15% to 17%

- Base rate case is \$10M increase
- Then plan to put \$20M in ground in 1<sup>st</sup> year so immediately behind
- Nisource driving to reduce debt to to 55%
- Step increase puts BSG in best position chairman of Nisource says he who has best regulatory structure will get the capital.

# Dan Cody

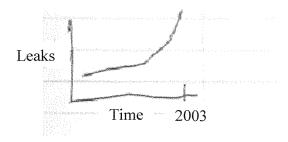
- CI could be 100+ years old
- BS started use in 1920-50's

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\*\*Case should focus on BS but would like to include CI

#### Corrosion

- Unprotected BS degrades fairly uniformly
- 1986 0.4 leaks/mile. All referenced are type 1& 2 leaks
- went to 0.8 in 10 years
- went to 1.2 in 5 years
- went to 2.4 in 3 years



- hearing that nationwide avg = 1 leak/mile
- cathodic protection not practical so replacement is early option
- current replacement schedule 50-60 years
- system doesn't have 50-60 years left
- question of at what point in curve are you no longer a prudent operation & 192.465 requirement is not being met
- generally replacing facilities at rate= to depreciation for overall plant
- historical plant being replaced is  $\sim$  \$5/ft in value and is being replaced at \$50/ft
- consider theme that all U.S. gas/electric infrastructure is dated and degrading
- Dan met w/ pipeline safety head @ DTE and they asked why isn't everyone coming in w/ this problem
- Winter leaks a bigger problem since frost cup force gas to migrate to sewers, base etc.
- They try to deal w/ all leaks prior to winter
- Have cut 15% of workforce after merger but now have hired back
- Will need to add a construction crew a year even w/replacement program
- Will take five years of accelerated replacement in Brockton to get leaks back to current rates and will have rising O&M costs for 5 years +
- The project will not, on a segment by segment basis, be linked to the worst segment for every project
- For efficiencies BSG will want to do larger regions town at a time, i.e. lower than current average contractors will give them lower prices
- Better for town planning to have larger project
- Town leaders unlikely to positive about any work due to costs
- Construction will increase local property tax
- Rate impact is 1% per year for 20 years w/ other elements adding 1% total increase w/program and other is 2%

- Currently found on 20 years program to balance rate impact & need
- Their plan is \$20M rate base increases per year for 20 years
- DTE safety staff discussions, informal
  - Keyspan got cited recently under 465 when house exploded for failure to corrosion

Enstar Berkshire Keyspan

- They want us to collect New England & nation DOT data for comparison. Will look bad vs. nation and good vs. New England
- DTE staff was in agreement regard leak increase and need to start something
- Have a step adjusting in NH & planning one for main
- DTE always in house but @ BSG but very micro analysis
- DTE safety has request BSG get national leak data and curves that shows non linear increase
- Load growth in Brockton is driving them to operate at close to design pressures @ 100psi
- Look at KPL Kansas for BS services that got in trouble a few years ago 10 years ago big explosions
- Commission is opposed to frequent rate cases
- Dan feels they got independent audit 3 times a week. DTE monitoring their crews & DTE monitors perform process against BGS O&M standards
- Dan very comfortable w/ O&M manual and process

### 3 Corporate Philosophies at Nisource

- 1. Baystate & Northern think O&M manual is requirements to meet code
- 2. Columbia puts everything in O&M, training, spirit of way.
- 3. Indiana is somewhere in the middle
- Doug Casey new lead for program
- Don't hesitate to call Steve B
- Mike Mount commit to status report every 2 weeks on email exec level. Bullets.
  - Status
  - On-going
  - Next steps
- Talk to Doug about report every 2 weeks
- Need to start data tracking tool
- Need to stop all material w/ BSG Litigation wording
- Bryant will send us rate case schedule

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- Steve- they are not up against a hard schedule but need to resolve this earlier rather than later.
- Want product late October to early November Oct 15 Steve presentation to Risk Management Committee
- Need narrowing of options by Oct 15, with draft of Rudden report received
- Need testimony down by February
- Pacific Economics- Kaufman is their PBR expert same as Keyspan's witness
- Plan on getting together w/depreciation and COSS (Paul Mahl) & PBR experts by early September
- Draft of work effort to them by next week; final by September 1.
- Draft recommendations by October 15 on rate recovery options
- No formal report, keep regulatory strategy separate
- We need to pick our benchmark carefully to avoid unwanted interview

### Business case components

- Need national/regional BS data by 10/15
- Economics/Business Case by 11/1
- Regulatory strategy by 11/1
- Draft testimony by 12/15
- CapEx management process and template
- \* Need to review CapEx decision making process and CapEx management
- \* Keyspan had an issue w/this in MA
- dealing w/ estimating/overruns
- review Keyspan order

#### New CAPEX Effort Added

- Regulations for Capex that is required
- Bidding practices with construction contractors
- Need ROI
- Approvals
- Tracking for as-builts and review
- Approval and process documentation
- Need to differentiate mains and services
- Tom would like to see a template to be used for annual step increase filing to commission (Add as a separate process)
- Develop price estimate for new effort

### Strategic Options

- Would prefer rate cases every two years rather than accept deferrals and AFUDC
- Priority
  - Step Rates
  - o 2 year rate cases

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#### o deferral and AFUDC

Mike asked for copy of all reports/audits etc. from Dan in recent history by Sept 1

- Use a key code for all plots don't ID company
- Paul LaShoto former VP hired back to compile support for all projects over \$50K
- Replacement investment Model "RIM"
  - Current model is a derivation of NH BS model and prior to that the Maine CI model
- RIM is used for discretionary CapEx it is not for deciding when funds should be spent just how to allocate it.
- It was last updated last summer
- \* Steve wants to talk about data needs
- bubble chart line/threshold is adjusted each year based on available capital dollars.
- RIM leak prediction is a simplified calculation that is only used in model
- Would like info on other leak detector methods or models
- Possible Meeting the week of September 20<sup>th</sup> in Columbus, OH to get all rate case consultants and staff together

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# 8/17/04

# Doug Casey BayState

- Keith Dalton said no correspondence w/ DTE regarding BS/CI discusssion
- 7&9 in process of pulling data together
- updated document status report based on his comments
- he said status report

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#### 8/30/04

Baystate Budget Talk

Colin Nesbit Doug Casey Ed Anderson

- combo of historical data and known charges going forward
- prepared for each operating center
- best they
- \* cannot compare locations need to each district separately
- budgets are developed months prior to end of year
  - budget time
  - construction April- Nov, 9 months
- engineers do \$ and volumes
- OCM does leaks & locates
- $0101\ 150\ dry\ holes = vol$
- 0102 leaks repair main 1200= vol = # of repairs
- 0122 where pipe comes out of group to meter
- budget is don't loaded rates
- developing loadings will be tough
- actual data 2001-2004 Act & Budget for all 3 divisions for CapEx & O&M
- Doug will average meetings w/ division engineers who do budgeting:
  - John
  - Wayne
  - Keith Dalton is supervisor, Doug will also set up a call with him

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# 8/31/04 Baystate Telecom

#### Dan Cote

### from Dan

- Leaks are rising faster than we are replacing pipe
- Can't continue as normal
- Recommend raising %BS to 4.5%
- Use >50 miles
  - > 5000 services
- Wants to look at KP&L data and Atlanta Gas Light (both under BS replacement mandates)
- Verify your exponential relationship of leak increases
- Develop leak predictions
- Need to spend more time thinking about it
- But need more data
- Wants to look at 5-10 companies or greater
- Limit analysis to just BS now, but want order open enough to be able to address CI if that becomes a problem in the future (ask Ed to confirm this)
- Want order to cover any investment beyond depreciation

working on developing data base by town

- # mile of main
- # leaks
- # avg age of pipe
- #MAOP
- weighted class on open repairs vs. completed repairs
- winter degree days

should have analysis in 2 weeks

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### 9/1/04 Keith Dalton

- RIM populated in late summer to early fall
- RIM uses rule of thumb estimates for initial RIM
- If project gets funded then a field estimate is done to populate WO estimate but better estimate does not go back into RIM
- CAPEX budgeting \$ is also rule of thumb
- 93% construction done by contractors in all 3 divisions
- contractors are kept on multi-year contracts with no inflation to \$
- main replacements are 98% BS & CI

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# 9/3/04 Keith Dalton BGS Bill Cyr (bst.cyr@nisource.com)

- Budget best source

### Volumes for leak surveys

- Survey driven by code requirements, code says must survey
  - 50% of mains, Brockton has 2500 miles
  - 33% of Services
  - they follow code on services
  - in Brockton they exceed code & survey 100% in their procedures
  - during extreme cold will also do more surveying

### Same applies for corrosion

- main code requires every 3 years
- services code required every 10 years

#### **Unit Costs**

- Corrosion & leak surveys done w/ contractor
- They bid work by unit cost or actually \$/day knowing how much they can do per day.
- Generally multi-year contracts
- Some internal labor for process and also leak investigation

### Leak Repair Volumes

- Leak volumes based on historical averages with intelligence-base adjusted, volume estimates are not based on formulaic calculation

#### Unit cost

- Look at historical average costs and interject intelligence
- Police assistance is largest piece of purchases
- actual year to date may have a mismatch between volumes and \$ for invoices based on timing of entry

#### Line items

101 Investigate leaks ?- not a lot of attention, better to use budget data for forecasting maybe drop

0103 DOT report for services includes 0122 service fit leaks

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- We have distribution budget which is all underground
- They also have a service budget
- 0122 service fit leaks should be dropped from BS/CI replacement project but need to understand what goes in it (Bill will follow up on this)

# leak activity

- needs to combine O&M and CAPEX

0175 budget volume seems to low

- CI/BS replacement project will have minimal effect on corrosion and leak surveys maybe drop 0111 & 0112
- Probably won't drop 100% survey

0117-0118 in O&M budget but booked actuals to capital accounts. Year end budget \$ is a better source for \$ due to timing issues 0119 drop since CI & BS replacement project is in capital

Bill Cyr will investigate what goes into service looks on DOT reports vs. budget line items

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#### 10/1/04

#### BSG

# Steve Bryant, Dan Cote, Doug Casey, Tom Birmingham on phone, Ed Anderson, Rich Rudden, Bob O'Brien & Mike Mount

- Springfield has newer BS and operates at lower pressure per Dan C.
- \* Dan and Steve agree to new sorting criteria.
- Per Dan, remaining 70 miles of NPCS should be dealt with as if BS
  - Bad shape
  - old
  - Small segments
- If squeezed hard might find 5-6 miles that could be protected
- \* Dan will put together package to defend position on including remaining UPCS with BS
- \* Dan agrees only BS services connected to BS main will be replaced
- \* OK to statistician
- \* OK to metallurgist if tight scope, not to debate protecting BS, mainly to look at UPCS
- But maybe want a leak expert rather than corrosion expert such as Heath Associates. Dan has contacts at Heath.

#### **CAPEX**

- Add to procedure post project review by internal BSG managers they currently do this quarterly.

- Paul Lashoto is outside consultant they want Rudden to speak with him as part of this work can speak with in the month
- OK to complete after Oct 31
- \* Dan will chase documentation of historical CAPEX review meetings
- \* Sounds like we have go ahead per Steve
- Steve will set up a conference call with Trish, Steve, Bob and Mike

#### Financial Model

- Characterize estimate of zero leak as conservation
- Replacing 14 mile/year over last 15-20 years with 500 miles have ~35-36 years
- \*Shorten status quo to real status quo years
- Use depreciation rate from plastic since over 90% will be plastic
- 8" size is cutoff and a grayline between steel and plastic.
- Rudden to work with Dan to define estimate of program by town and then explain methodology.
- \*Eliminate C&I and Residential allocation

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(c) Page 13 of 24

- \*Dan does have material overhead on capital.
- Barholes remove "dry hole" reference
- Change year 1 of program to 2005
- \* Include in tracker
  - capital
  - increased depreciation
- increased property tax\* Spell check for DIT currently DOT
- \* MDM- send letter to Trish to confirm scope and \$ charge

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# 10/20/04 CapEX Paul LaShoto, Doug Casey

Paul LaShoto was at BSG for 12 years- Head of Engineering

Northern Utilities Bare Steel Program may have examples-

#### **Problems**

- No copy of approvals
- Corp office doesn't have records that divisions have
- No explanation of growth and expected sale
- Matching estimates to actuals
- Explanations of average

#### Good Stuff

- Had policy anything above +XK was bid out
- All fixed cost with fixed unit price for extras
- All work by contractors
- Inspectors sign-off anything unusual and over estimate by volume of priced extras
- "Growth Project" was new customer
- Above applied to all categories of projects whether growth or not instead of CIAC

#### Annual Projects/Annual Bids

#### Contractors hired in 2 ways

- 1. Over \$X all projects sent out for bid
- 2. routine small projects bid to consultants give list of normal types of projects and they bid on unit/price

4-5 contractors selected for routine work during year.

With small projects did not see a lot of paper work

Had total expenditures by type field locations managed individual project but Paul not really.

Budgets aggregated at division

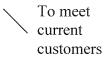
Division manager maybe point for paper

# Have two processes

- Blue Sheet- T&D
- Yellow Sheet- Current capital categories

Discretionary 1.Growth - discretionary and revenue

Non-discretionary 2. Code compliance



Non-discretionary 3. System Need- capac

3. System Need- capacity, System improvement- reliability,

System reinforcement - replacement

Non-discretionary

4. Municipal Improvement forced move due to municipal

changes/requests

discretionary

5. Municipal improvement. Street resurfacing over pipe that

needs replacement allows pipe replacement at 10-15%?

discretionary

6. Performance or condition where pipe is old and needs

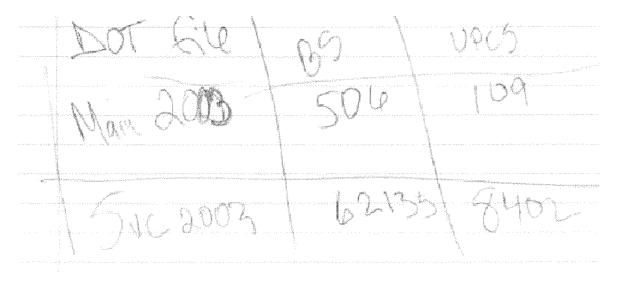
replacement but is discretionary.

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# 10/22/04 Tom Birmingham

Cost per mile min \$60/ft Cost per service \$1400 He needs to check- 72,000 at Risk Services 630 at Risk mains

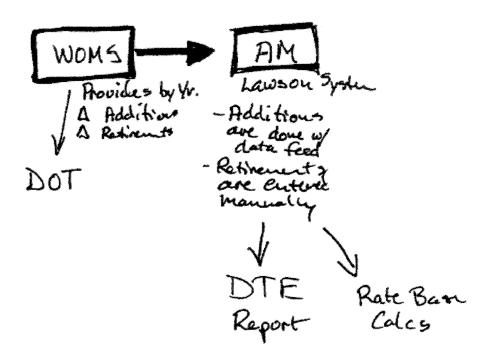
Going in 9.25% WACC +/- O.25%



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11-17-04 BSG Conference Call Steve B. Doug C., Tom B., Rich R., Ed A., George F.

DOT AM



Steve will call us back in one day.

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11/24/04 Doug & Tom BSG

?Expand to state level analysis with DOT data? Do the state analysis!

# Evaluation of discrepancies

- Will hold next meeting Tuesday with large group
- Currently appears
  - Asset management data OK
  - WOMS data OK
- DOT report uses a program to extract WOMS data. It appears logic in extract program is wrong
- DOT leak data
- Now questioning the need for DOT analysis
- Want meeting with Bob and team to discuss how to use our analysis in filing, e.g. do we use DOT analysis suggest we meeting in our offices, theirs or Manhattan
- Send template
- Send explanation of how to calculate values of UPCS \$

Tuesday meeting 9-10:30

### 2003 DOT Annual Distribution

- Report data
- RJR data request

Division level leak data 1985-2003 Main's information from asset manager e-mailed 10-7-04 Leak data from WOMS.xls

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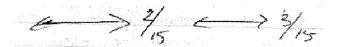
# 12/1/04

#### **BSG**

# Tom Birmingham, Doug Casey, Rich Rudden, Ed Anderson & Mike Mount

Call re: status of data discrepancy

- Tuesday meeting had 15-20 people, including Steve, Dan and people from Ohio.
- Differences between DOT & DTE report are only footage difference in main, # of services has not been reconciled.
- \$ are OK
- Dan Cote assigned a team leader Marie Walker to develop a work plan
- Maybe something as simple as coding in report
- \*Not yet comfortable that miles in AM are accurate
- Decided not going to ask George f to do a statistical analysis of report.
- March 15 is rate impact
- Schedules due April 15
- \* Give Tom a drop dead date for latest date per worst case should allow 4 weeks. Rich to restrategize



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### 12/10/04

# **BSG Status Report**

# Tom Birmingham, Doug Casey, Ed Anderson and Mike Mount

- Struggled to determine a defensible analysis
- Have useable data on BS mains, leaks, \$, and quantity
- Still have questionable data on UPCS and Services
- We must make adjustments to deal with latest status of data
- Our report can address recommendations for BS & UPCS for both mains and services
- What we can deliver is an analytical analysis of BS mains. Data says BS leaks poor in comparison to U.S. and Regional.
- We then can address services and UPCS through expert opinions and industry experience.
- Services subject to same corrosion issues and degradation as mains
- UPCS should be worse based on expert opinion
- Financial analysis will address known quantifies of BS mains then add additional scenario to cover added \$ of services and UPCS.

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12/16/04 BSG Conference Call Tom B., Marie Walker., Rob Dewees, Ed Anderson, Bob O., Mike M. and Doug Casey

Marie says currently just looking at units of main

2 weeks ago thought A.M. data the best, now DOT data may be the best

Maria has found retirements that are not part of a main replacement do not get to the asset management system she think it accounts for about 55 mile difference between AM & DOT since DOT does capture this footage.

2-2:30 Friday- conf call with Tom, Steve, Doug, Ed and Bob

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# 12/17/04 BSG Call

Dan Cote, Doug Casey, Tom Birmingham, Ed Anderson, Joe Trainor, Bob O'Brien, Steve Bryant, Rob Dewees

Use \$20M/per year

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# 1/20/05 BSG

Maria reconstructed DOT report starting from 1992 and found much higher level of

- in reconstruction
- DOT BS was 1% variance
- UPCS not complete

Steve feels Bob hours should be backed out and any new hours for rate case

Bay State Gas Company D.T.E. 05-27 RR-AG-20 Attachment 20(c) Page 24 of 24

# 1/31/05 **BSG Call** Tom Birmingham

- Steve Bryant availability 9 to 11 and 2:30 to 5
- no work plan for CapEx piece 1985 –2003 data is their first choice